

Brady Campaign



To Prevent Gun Violence

SENSIBLE GUN LAWS SAVE LIVES

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

2006 NOV -1 P 2:55

November 1, 2006

Office of the General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463

MUR # 5874

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (Brady Campaign) hereby files this complaint against the Gun Owners of America (GOA), a 501(c) (4) corporation located at 8001 Forbes Pl., Suite 102, Springfield VA 22151.

Complainant herein, the Brady Campaign, a non-profit 501 (c)(4) corporation, is asking the FEC to investigate whether the GOA is in violation of Federal Election Commission regulations and Federal Election Campaign Laws, whether the GOA has engaged in electioneering and whether it has made illegal in-kind contributions to federal candidates by expressly advocating the election or defeat of federal candidates to the general public through its web activities.

The www.GUNOWNERS.ORG website is not a password protected website and is accessible to the general public through the Internet. The undersigned personally accessed this site without the use of a password on a nearly daily basis since the first week of October 2006.

The content of the website accessible to the general public, includes the following:

- 1) Information communicating the GOA's 2006 federal candidate grades in the form of a voter guide to the general public, through this non-password protected website. The voter guide contains ratings for nearly all federal candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate (Attachment #1 - Screen shot of www.GUNOWNERS.ORG website home page. Screen Shot of Voter guide main page. Examples of the voter guide pages are included. Screen shot of explanation of candidate ratings. The voter guide is available for all 50 states; we have included sample pages for MO, VA and PA. Copies of the remaining states are available in hard copy and in electronic form)

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- 2) Information providing links to its non-password protected website (www.GUNOWNERS.ORG) in its corporate action alerts which has a distribution which includes the general public, encouraging readers of the action alerts to visit its non-password protected website (www.GUNOWNERS.ORG) to view the voter guide and vote accordingly and distribute the action alert to others to others (Attachment #2 – Screen shot of action alerts showing links to Action Alert sent by the GOA on October 26).

The action alert, by referring the reader to the voter guide, is engaging in express advocacy because it contains “words urging action with respect to candidates associated with a particular issue” as discussed on page 31 of the FEC’s Campaign Guide for Corporations and Labor Organizations.


In addition, the publicizing of the voter guide on www.GUNOWNERS.ORG constitutes either an independent expenditure or in-kind contributions to those candidates listed. Corporations are prohibited from engaging in either type of activity.

We have additional evidence and documentation, in hard copy and electronic form, available.

For the reasons stated, Complainant Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence hereby submits this Complaint against Respondents Gun Owners of America to the FEC to determine if violations of federal Campaign Laws and Federal Election Commission regulations occurred in the manner described above and if so to take appropriate action

Sincerely,

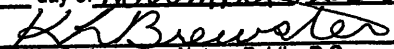
Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
By: Christopher F. Carr
VP-COO



District of Columbia : SS

Subscribed and Sworn to before me, in my presence,

this 1 day of November, 2006


Kathleen L. Brewster, Notary Public, D.C.

My commission expires October 14, 2008

Gun Owners of America - Microsoft Internet Explorer


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Gun Owners of America

8001 Forbes Pl Suite 102
Springfield VA 22151
PH: 703-321-8585
FX: 703-321-8408
goaemail@gunowners.org

Who Is GOA?

"The only no-compromise gun lobby in Washington."
-Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX)

Search ● = Recently Updated


Alerts!

● **Good News And... More Good News** ●

Previous Alerts

2006 Voter's Guide

Legislative Action Center

Tools To Defend Your Rights 

Membership Info

Join, Renew Or Contribute Online

Join The E-Mail Alert Network

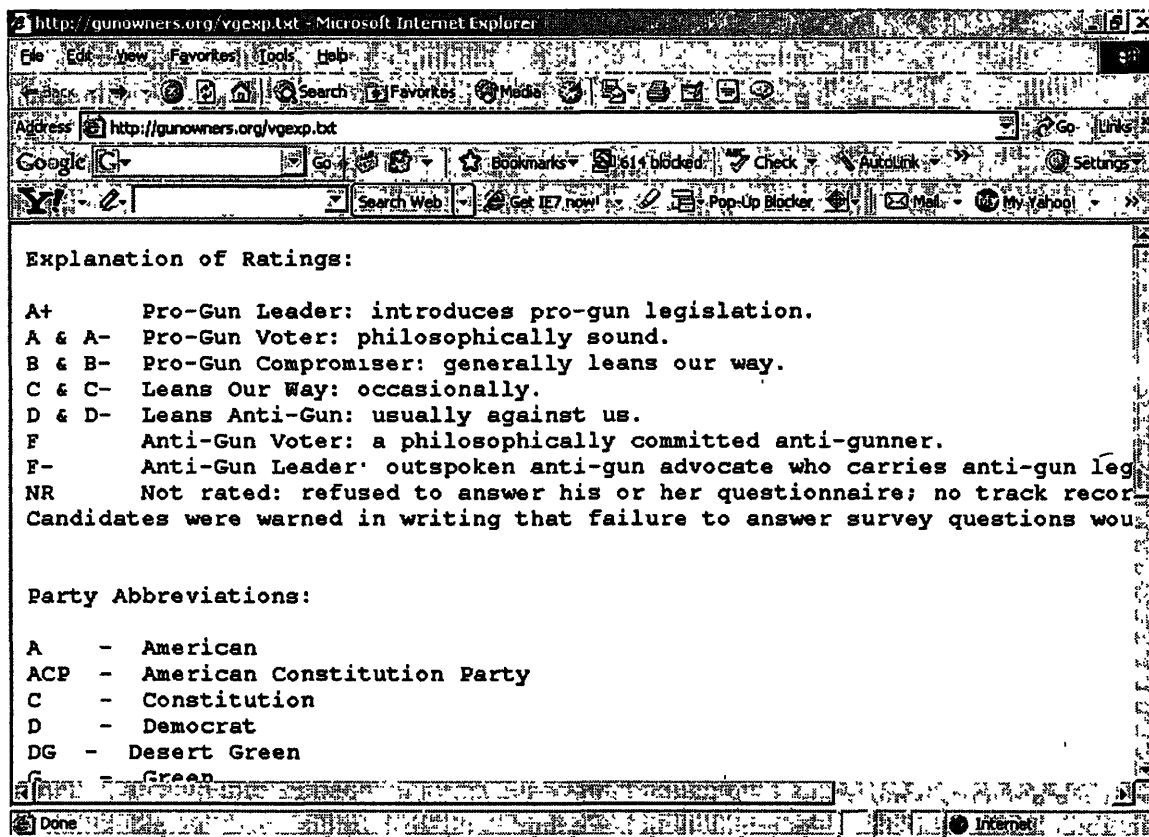
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GOA T O D A Y

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11:16 PM

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Oct 2006

2006 Candidate Ratings Guide

Explanation of ratings and party abbreviations

Please Select Your State

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Alabama</u> | <u>Alaska</u> | <u>Arizona</u> | <u>Arkansas</u> | <u>California</u> |
| <u>Colorado</u> | <u>Connecticut</u> | <u>Delaware</u> | <u>Florida</u> | <u>Georgia</u> |
| <u>Hawaii</u> | <u>Idaho</u> | <u>Illinois</u> | <u>Indiana</u> | <u>Iowa</u> |
| <u>Kansas</u> | <u>Kentucky</u> | <u>Louisiana</u> | <u>Maine</u> | <u>Maryland</u> |
| <u>Massachusetts</u> | <u>Michigan</u> | <u>Minnesota</u> | <u>Mississippi</u> | <u>Missouri</u> |
| <u>Montana</u> | <u>Nebraska</u> | <u>Nevada</u> | <u>New Hampshire</u> | <u>New Jersey</u> |

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MISSOURI CANDIDATES

| SENATE | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|--------|
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
| | TALENT | R | A |
| | MCCASKILL | D | NR |
| | GILMOUR | L | NR |
| | LEWIS | PGR | F |

| HOUSE | | | |
|----------|------|-------|--------|
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |

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Address: <http://www.gunowners.org/vgmo06.htm>

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Oct 2006

MISSOURI CANDIDATES

| SENATE | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|--------|
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
| | TALENT | R | A |
| | MCCASKILL | D | NR |
| | GILMOUR | L | NR |
| | LEWIS | PGR | F |
| HOUSE | | | |
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |

GOA 2006 Candidate Ratings Guide - Missouri - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://www.gunowners.org/vgmo06.htm>

LEWIS PGR F

HOUSE

| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
|----------|-------------|-------|--------|
| 01 | CLAY | D | F- |
| 01 | BYRNE | R | A |
| 01 | CUNNINGHAM | L | A |
| 02 | AKIN | R | A |
| 02 | MILLAY | L | NR |
| 03 | CARNAHAN | D | F |
| 03 | BERTELSEN | R | C |
| 03 | CHRISTOPHEL | L | NR |
| 03 | SLADKY | PRG | NR |

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| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----|----|
| 04 | SKELTON | D | B- |
| 04 | NOLAND | R | A- |
| 04 | HOLTHOUSE | L | NR |
| 04 | IVEY | PGR | NR |
| 05 | CLEAVER | D | F |
| 05 | TURK | R | NR |
| 06 | GRAVES | R | A- |
| 06 | SHETTLES | D | NR |
| 06 | BUCK | L | A |
| 06 | YURKOMIS | PGR | NR |
| 07 | BLUNT | R | A- |
| 07 | TRUMAN | D | F |

GOA 2006 Candidate Ratings Guide-- Missouri - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://www.gunowners.org/vgmo06.htm>

| | | | |
|----|------------|-----|----|
| 07 | BLUNT | R | A- |
| 07 | TRUMAN | D | F |
| 07 | CRAIG | L | A |
| 08 | EMERSON | R | B |
| 08 | HAMBACKER | D | NR |
| 08 | MCCULLOUGH | L | A- |
| 09 | HULSHOF | R | A |
| 09 | BURGHARD | D | NR |
| 09 | HEDRICK | L | NR |
| 09 | HASTINGS | PGR | NR |

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PENNSYLVANIA CANDIDATES

| SENATE | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|--------|
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
| | SANTORUM | R | B- |
| | CASEY | D | NR |
| | ROMANELLI | G | NR |
| HOUSE | | | |
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
| 01 | BRADY | D | F- |

GOA 2006 Candidate Ratings Guide - Pennsylvania - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.gunowners.org/vgpa06.htm

HOUSE

| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
|----------|----------|-------|--------|
| 01 | BRADY | D | F- |
| 02 | FATTAH | D | F- |
| 02 | GESSNER | R | C |
| 02 | BAKER | G | NR |
| 03 | ENGLISH | R | A- |
| 03 | PORTER | D | D |
| 03 | HAGBERG | C | A- |
| 04 | HART | R | A- |
| 04 | ALTMIRE | D | A |
| 05 | PETERSON | R | A |

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| | | | |
|----|-------------|---|----|
| 04 | ALTMIRE | D | A |
| 05 | PETERSON | R | A |
| 05 | HILLIARD | D | NR |
| 06 | GERLACH | R | A- |
| 06 | MURPHY | D | NR |
| 07 | WELDON | R | C- |
| 07 | SESTACK | D | NR |
| 08 | FITZPATRICK | R | C- |
| 08 | MURPHY | D | NR |
| 09 | SHUSTER | R | A |
| 09 | BARR | D | NR |
| 10 | SHERWOOD | R | A- |

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| | | | |
|----|-----------|---|----|
| 10 | CARNEY | D | NR |
| 11 | KANJORSKI | D | B- |
| 11 | LEONARDI | R | A |
| 12 | MURTHA | D | B- |
| 12 | IREY | R | NR |
| 13 | SCHWARTZ | D | F |
| 13 | BHAKTA | R | C- |
| 14 | DOYLE | D | F |
| 14 | NORTH | G | F |
| 15 | DENT | R | A- |
| 15 | DERTINGER | D | NR |
| 15 | BROWNE | G | NR |

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| | | | |
|----|----------|---|----|
| 15 | BROWNE | G | NR |
| 16 | PITTS | R | A- |
| 16 | HERR | D | F |
| 16 | MURPHY | I | NR |
| 17 | WERTZ | R | NR |
| 17 | HOLDEN | D | B- |
| 18 | KLUKO | D | NR |
| 18 | MURPHY | R | B- |
| 19 | PLATTS | R | B |
| 19 | AVILLO | D | NR |
| 19 | MAITLAND | G | NR |

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VIRGINIA CANDIDATES

| SENATE | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|--------|
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
| | ALLEN | R | A |
| | WEBB | D | NR |
| HOUSE | | | |
| DISTRICT | NAME | PARTY | RATING |
| 01 | DAVIS | R | A |
| 01 | O'DONNELL | D | NR |

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| | | | |
|----|-----------|----|----|
| 01 | O'DONNELL | D | NR |
| 01 | PIXTON | I | F |
| 02 | DRAKE | R | A- |
| 02 | KELLAM | D | NR |
| 03 | SCOTT | D | F- |
| 04 | FORBES | R | A |
| 04 | BURCKARD | IG | NR |
| 05 | GOODE | R | A |
| 05 | WEED | D | C |
| 05 | ODDO | IG | NR |
| 06 | GOODLATTE | R | A- |

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| | | | |
|----|------------|---|----|
| 06 | GOODLATTE | R | A- |
| 06 | PRYOR | I | NR |
| 06 | PEERY | I | NR |
| 07 | CANTOR | R | A- |
| 07 | NACHMANN | D | NR |
| 07 | BLANTON | I | NR |
| 08 | MORAN | D | F- |
| 08 | O'DONOGHUE | R | D |
| 08 | HURYSZ | I | NR |
| 09 | BOUCHER | D | A- |
| 09 | CARRICO | R | B |
| 10 | WOLF | R | F |

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| | | | |
|----|---------|----|----|
| 09 | BOUCHER | D | A- |
| 09 | CARRICO | R | B |
| 10 | WOLF | R | F |
| 10 | FEDER | D | NR |
| 10 | NIGAM | I | F |
| 10 | WOOD | L | A |
| 11 | DAVIS | R | D |
| 11 | HURST | D | NR |
| 11 | GRECO | IG | NR |

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Subj: **Congressional Voter's Guide**
Date: 10/26/2006 4:00:18 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Gun_Owners_of_America@capwiz mailmanager net
To: nrabites@aol.com

Gun Owners of America Releases Congressional Voter Guide
-- Elections will produce tremendous impact on gun owners' rights

Gun Owners of America E-Mail Alert
8001 Forbes Place, Suite 102, Springfield, VA 22151
Phone: 703-321-8585 / FAX: 703-321-8408
<http://www.gunowners.org>

Thursday, October 26, 2006

With the election less than two weeks away, Gun Owners of America is doing its best to keep gun owners informed about who is protecting your rights in the Congress.

As you can imagine, the calls for more gun control have magnified after the recent spate of school shootings, where several students and staff were murdered.

GOA spokesmen made TV appearances, not only all over the country, but in several countries around the globe as well -- defending the right of good people to defend themselves with firearms. (You will be able to see some of these TV debates on our website as soon as we finish getting them processed.)

The anti-gunners are NOT going away, and that is why we need to take the upcoming election VERY SERIOUSLY.

The upcoming election may well determine the fate of our gun rights next year. And that is why we are also committed to helping inform pro-gun voters throughout the country.

Toward that end, Gun Owners of America has provided a valuable resource to help you on Election Day. GOA's Voter Guide is now landing in mailboxes around the nation. But the online version of this guide at <http://www.gunowners.org/votetb06.htm> is available to all.

We hope you will make use of this valuable tool and share them with

your family and friends. Please distribute this e-mail far and wide.
Thank you!

Please do not reply directly to this message, as your reply will
bounce back as undeliverable.

To subscribe to free, low-volume GOA alerts, go to
<http://www.gunowners.org/ean.htm> on the web. Change of e-mail
address may also be made at that location.

To unsubscribe send a message to
gunowners_list@capwiz.mailmanager.net with the word unsubscribe in
the subject line or use the url below.

Problems, questions or comments? The main GOA e-mail address
goamail@gunowners.org is at your disposal. Please do not add that
address to distribution lists sending more than ten messages per
week or lists associated with issues other than gun rights.

If you no longer wish to receive e-mail from us, please visit
<http://capwiz.com/gunowners/lmx/u/?jobid=75909112&queueid=932783601>.